[Mr. T. Kumara Pillai.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12* :—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Standards for Promotions in the Excise Department.

1. MR. G. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Excise Commissioner has recorded his opinion that seniority in service and qualifications need not be considered as standards of test for promotions in the Excise Department?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Mr. Van Ross has stated that seniority or educational qualifications should not be the sole criterion for promotion in the executive line of the Excise Department.

Production of Local Salt.

2. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many maunds of salt are required for consumption in the State for one year;

(*b*) how many maunds of salt were manufactured in 1095, 1096 and 1097 in each of the factories of the State;

(*c*) how many maunds of salt were sold from each of the factories in these years; and

(*d*) what surplus quantity of salt was left in each of the factories?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) 10,50,000 maunds roughly;

(*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) A statement* containing the information is laid on the table.

Salt in the Tamaracolam Factories.

3. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*): (*a*) How many maunds of salt were manufactured in the Tamaracolam factories in the years 1095, 1096 and 1097?

(*b*) How many maunds of salt were sold out of the same during each year?

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* *Vide* Appendix I—page 9.

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(*c*) What was the quantity of salt left unsold in the Tamaracolam factories out of the quantity stored therein by the producers of salt till the 14th Vrischikam, 1098 ?

(*d*) Did the salt-producers concerned inform the Excise Commissioner and the Government and give notice to them that they should be paid the *kudivila* for the surplus salt left unsold ?

(*e*) Are the Government aware of the circumstances under which the producers of salt are put to loss on account of the non-payment of *kudivila* in time for the salt stored by them in large quantities ? If so, will the Government be pleased to state them ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (*a*)& (*b*) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 2 (*b*) & (*c*).

(*c*) A statement† giving the required information is laid on the table.

(*d*) It is reported that some of the licensees made such a request in 1097. But under clause 12 of rule (3) of the Salt Rules, *kudivaram* should be paid to the licensees only after the removal of the salt from the factory.

(*e*) The member is referred to the answer to part (*d*) of the question.

Salt manufactured at Tamaracolam.

4. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikom* cum *Ettumanur*) :

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points:

(1) the quantity of salt manufactured in each of the *alloms* of Tamaracolam during 1096 and 1097, and also in the *Purattasi Pani* of 1098 ;

(2) the quantity transported in each of these years from those *alloms* to other parts of Travancore for consumption ; and

(3) the total quantity of salt left in the *alloms* before the 14th Vrischikam, 1098 ?

(*b*) Was any salt left in the pans without being stored on the platforms in any of the *alloms* at the time of the cyclone in Vrischikam last ? If so, in whose *alloms* was the salt left in the pans ? Why was not storage enforced ?

(*c*) Is any Government officer responsible for the loss of salt in the cyclone ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) (1), (2) & (3) A statement‡ containing the information is laid on the table.

(*b*) & (*c*) The answer is in the negative.

Kudivaram for Salt.

5. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI (*Eraniel* cum *Vilavankod*):

(*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any

† *Vide* Appendix II—page 10. ‡ *Vide* Appendix III—page 11.

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